

## Message Text

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, IT

SUBJ: DHEW/PHS/OAS/OIH - HEALTH PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

REF: STATE 135401

DEPT PASS DHEW/AHRLICH/FISHER/QUINN

DEPT FOR BEAUBIEN/OES/SCI/BMP

1. THE DETAILS ON THE PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATION HEALTH PROJECT REQUESTED REFTTEL FOLLOW:

A. THERE ARE DOCUMENTED REQUIREMENTS IN ITALY TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE ITALIAN MEDICAL CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM.

B. THERE ARE DOCUMENTED REQUIREMENTS IN ITALY TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE ITALIAN MEDICAL EDUCATION.

C. THERE EXISTS IN THE US ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY THAT CAN BE OF IMMEDIATE AID TO ITALY IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH CARE. SUCH TECHNOLOGY IS DEMONSTRATED DAILY AT THE NAVAHO TEST SITE IN ARIZONA (STARPHAC) AND AT SUCH TELEMEDICINE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AS MASS. GENERAL - BOSTON VA, TVA, MIAMI Dade COUNTY, 073459 48:9, MAINE, AT-6 ETC.

D. IN RESPONSE TO ITALIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, EMB RESPONDED JULY 31, 1974 WITH STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNICAL AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE IN THE U.S.

E. AMBASSADOR F. SENSI, DIPLOMATIC ADVISER TO PRESIDENT LEONE, UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH HIS COLLEAGUE, COJNSELOR CORTESE DI BOSIS, BRIEFED

PRESIDENT LEONE ON THE ADVANCED MEDICAL-TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS OF THE US WHICH THEY FEEL COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF ITALIAN MEDICAL CARE DELIVERY - ESPECIALLY AS THEY WOULD RELATE TO PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.

F. PRESIDENT LEONE THEN APPOINTED A SPECIAL COMMISSION HEADED BY HIS PERSONAL PHYSICIAN PROF. GIUNCHI - VICE RECTOR ON THE UNIVERSITY OF ROME - TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF TRANSFER OF AMERICAN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY TO ITALY.

G. PROF. LICINIO ANGELINI OF THE COMMISSION VISITED NASA HOUSTON IN SEPT. 1974 TO MEET WITH DR. SAM POOLE OF NASA AND HIS COLLEAGUES. VISIT ARRANGED BY R. FARRELL CODE MME HQ. NASA.

H. IN DECEMBER 1974, PROF. GIUNCHI RECOMMENDED THAT A TEST PROGRAM BETWEEN ROME AND A REGIONAL HOSPITAL BE CONDUCTED. AS A FIRST STEP HE DISPATCHED THREE MEMBERS OF HIS COMMISSION TO THE US FOR A THREE-WEEK THROUGH REVIEW OF MOST OF THE TELE-MEDICINE PROGRAMS. THE VISITS WERE AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS.

I. PRESIDENT LEONE REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT FORD ASSURED HIM DURING HIS RECENT VISIT THAT U.S. WOULD PROVIDE AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR THE PROGRAM. THIS WAS REPORTED TO SCIATT BY DIPLOMATIC STAFF MEMBER IN QUIRINALE.

J. SCIATT CONTACTED DR. EHRLICH IN GENEVA TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING A MEETING WITH PROF. GIUNCHI DURING HIS STAY IN SWITZERLAND. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS WAS NOT POSSIBLE. \$4. EHRLICH WAS CONTACTED AS A RESULT OF SUGGESTION BY NSF THAT DR. EHRLICH'S ORGANIZATION IS BEST SOURCE OF SKILLS AND INTEREST FOR WORKING WITH ITALIANS ON THE PROGRAM.

K. IN TEXTBOOK ON TELEMEDICINE THAT WAS FUNDED IN PART BY NSF, WHICH IS TO BE PUBLISHED IN SEPT., THE URGENCY OF THE NEED TO CONDUCT INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IS STRESSED ON PAGE 259. VOLPE

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